

SENATE BILL 2879  
By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6 and Title 63, Chapter 9, relative to radiology practitioner assistants and radiology assistants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

63-6-235. (a) In addition to the practice permitted by Section 63-6-224, a radiologist may utilize the services of a radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant, to practice radiology assistance under the general supervision of such radiologist to the extent not prohibited by §63-6-224.

(b) The board of medical examiners shall define the scope of practice of a radiology practitioner assistant or radiology assistant by rules promulgated in accordance with the provisions of title 4, chapter 5. Such rules shall be consistent with the guidelines adopted by the American College of Radiology, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, Certification Board for Radiology Practitioner Assistants and the provisions of this section.

(c) A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant is authorized to practice radiology assistance under the general supervision of a radiologist to the extent not prohibited by §63-6-224.

(d) A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant is a health professional certified and registered with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) and is credentialed to provide primary radiology health care with radiologist supervision. A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant is

qualified by graduation from an educational program recognized by the board of directors of the Certification Board for Radiology Practitioner Assistants (CBRPA).

Within the relationship between a radiologist and a radiology practitioner or a radiology assistant, a radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant may exercise autonomy in decision making in the role of a primary caregiver with regard to patient assessment, patient management and in providing a broad range of radiology diagnostic and interventional services. The clinical role of a radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant includes primary and specialty care in radiology practice settings in rural and urban areas.

(e) A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant may not interpret images, make diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 9, Part 1 is amended by adding the following as a new section:

63-9-115. (a) In addition to the practice permitted by Section 63-9-112, a radiologist may utilize the services of a radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant to practice radiology assistance under the general supervision of a radiologist to the extent not prohibited by Section 63-9-112.

(b) The board of medical examiners shall define the scope of practice of a radiology practitioner assistant or radiology assistant by rules promulgated in accordance with the provisions of title 4, chapter 5. Such rules shall be consistent with the guidelines adopted by the American College of Radiology, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, Certification Board for Radiology Practitioner Assistants and the provisions of this section.

(c) A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant is authorized to practice radiology assistance under the general supervision of a radiologist to the extent not prohibited by Section 63-9-112.

(d) A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant is a health professional certified and registered with the American Registry of Radiologic

Technologists (ARRT) and is credentialed to provide primary radiology health care with radiologist supervision. A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant is qualified by graduation from an educational program recognized by the board of directors of the Certification Board for Radiology Practitioner Assistants (CBRPA). Within the relationship between a radiologist and a radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant, a radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant may exercise autonomy in decision making in the role of a primary caregiver with regard to patient assessment, patient management and in providing a broad range of radiology diagnostic and interventional services. The clinical role of a radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant includes primary and specialty care in radiology practice settings in rural and urban areas.

(e) A radiology practitioner assistant or a radiology assistant may not interpret images, make diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004, the public welfare requiring it.